



Board of Public Utilities

Cheyenne Water and Sewer Departments

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June 24, 2019

The Honorable Jared Huffman

Chairman

Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife
Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom McClintock

Ranking Member

Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife
Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Martha McSally

Chair

Subcommittee on Water and Power
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Catherine Cortez Masto

Ranking Member

Subcommittee on Water and Power
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairs Huffman and McSally and Ranking Members McClintock and Cortez Masto:

The City of Cheyenne Board of Public Utilities (Board) appreciates the opportunity to support of the reauthorization of the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program (Program) and the companion Platte River Recovery Implementation Authorization bills (H.R. 3237 and S. 990). The Board of Public Utilities serves the Capital city of Wyoming, Cheyenne with water and wastewater services for about 75,000 people. Part of our water supply comes from both the North and South Platte River Basins.

The Board believes this Program is a partnership that provides benefits for threatened and endangered species in the central and lower Platte River basin while allowing existing water use to continue and new upstream water development to proceed. It's a proactive effort to re-establish and protect whooping crane, least tern, piping plover, and pallid sturgeon habitat, for protection of the species, yet allows for the beneficial use of water for the protection of regional water supplies and economies.

The Board advocates for the reauthorization of the Program as it functions as a reasonable and prudent alternative for Endangered Species Act compliance regarding the four species, thereby reducing the regulatory burden on the Board's water users. As has been stated by the Governors of Wyoming, Nebraska, and Colorado, it is a national model for collaborative solutions to common problems. We hope you will support the reauthorization of this important Program.

Best Regards,

Bradley A. Brooks

Director | City of Cheyenne Board of Public Utilities

CC: Chairman Raúl M. Grijalva, Committee on Natural Resources
Ranking Member Rob Bishop, Committee on Natural Resources
Chair Lisa Murkowski, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
Ranking Member Manchin, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
Rep. Liz Cheney, Wyoming At Large
Sen. John Barrasso, Wyoming
Sen. Michael Enzi, Wyoming